

FROM:

DATE: 25 MAR 1963

	TO	INITIALS	DATE	SIGNATURE	INFORMATION	COMMENTS	APPROVAL	ACTION	SEE ME	FILE	RETURN	SEE REMARKS BELOW
DIR	2		3/27									
DEP. DIR												
EXEC/DIR	1		26m									
OPS/OFF												
SA	3											
SA												
CH/AS												
CH/SS												
CH/RS												
CH/PAS												
CH/TPDS												
CH/PD												
CH/CMD												
CH/TISD												
SIO/CIA												
SIO/ARMY												
SIO/NAVY												
SIO/AF												
SEC/AC												

REMARKS:

OPS FILES

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**TOP SECRET DINAR**

RAC No. 037/63

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**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Office of Current Intelligence  
23 March 1963**

**DAILY REPORT**

**SUBJECT: US Reconnaissance Activity over Cuba**

**1. Today's Schedule (23 March 1963)**

- a. Missions: BRASS KNOB 3509 off at 0417 EST. Estimated time of return 1213 EST.  
BRASS KNOB 3510 off at 0438 EST. Estimated time of return 1311 EST.
- b. Purpose : MISSION 3509 will cover the southeast and northwest coasts. Mission 3510 will cover the northern coast.
- c. Weather : Good to fair over western third of island. Poor over remainder of island. Forecast for tomorrow is fair over central interior and south central coast. Poor over remainder of island.
- d. IPIR due: 25 March 1963.

**2. Yesterday's Activity (22 March 1963)**

- a. Missions  
flown : BRASS KNOB Mission 3506 aborted.  
BRASS KNOB Mission 3507 covered western Cuba.  
BRASS KNOB 3508 covered the northern coast. Pilots estimate 5% and 3% coverage of scheduled targets respectively.
- b. Weather : Good to fair over eastern third of island. Poor over remainder of island.
- c. IPIR due: 24 March 1963.
- d. Reaction: No significant air defense reaction to these BRASS KNOB missions was noted.

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**3. Shipping Summary**

**a. Soviet Bloc ships confirmed en route to Cuba  
1600 EST 22 March:**

Tankers	7
Passenger	3
Dry Cargo	<u>15</u>
Total	25

**b. Soviet Bloc ships in Cuban ports 1600 EST  
22 March:**

Tankers	3
Passenger	1
Dry Cargo	<u>19</u>
Total	23

**c. Dry cargo ships now in Cuban ports which were  
photographed while inbound to Cuba by low-altitude or  
surface cameras: 18**

**d. CIA has received photos of 16 of these ships.**

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**TOP SECRET DINAR****ANNEX TO DAILY REPORT****23 March 1963**

The following is the status of "Special Interest" ships in the Cuban trade:

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
<u>En route to Cuba:</u>		
Baikal	Passenger	ETA Havana 27-29 March. (Estimate)
Mikhail Kalinin	Passenger	Left Kaliningrad on 20 March. ETA Cuba 2-3 April.
Nikolaevsk	Passenger	Passed Danish Straits 19 March. ETA Cuba 2 April.
<u>In Cuban ports:</u>		
Krasnograd	Cargo	21 March in Matanzas.
Karachaevo-Cherkassiya	Cargo (Krasnograd class)	21 March in Nuevitas
Baltika	Passenger	Left Havana 2300 EST 21 March.

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**TOP SECRET DINAR****BRASS KNOB COVERAGE OF COMOR HIGHEST PRIORITY TARGETS IN CUBA**

During 15-21 March 1963

Targets	Dates							<u>Totals</u>	
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Sorties	Days Covered
1. Siguanea Cruise Missile Site				1	1			2	2
2. Banes Cruise Missile Site						1		1	1
3. Santa Cruz del Norte Cruise Site	1	1			1			3	3
4. Camilo Cienfuegos Airfield	1						1	2	2
5. Camaguey Airfield		1				1	1	3	3
6. Holguin Airfield				1		1	1	3	3
7. San Antonio de los Banos Airfield	2	1	2	2	1			8	5
8. Mariel Naval Base	2	2	1	1	1	1		8	6
9. Banes Naval Base	1		1	1	2	1	1	7	6
10. Cienfuegos Naval Base	1				1	1	1	4	4
11. Santiago de Cuba Port				1	1	1		3	3
12. La Isabella Port	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	7
13. Caibarien Port	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	10	7
14. Cardenas Port	1	1		1	1	1	1	6	6
15. Casilda Port	1	1			1		1	4	4
16. Matanzas Port	1	1		1	1	1	1	6	6
17. Havana Port	2	1		2	1	1		7	5
18. Guantanamo Area		1			1	1		3	3
19. Pinar del Rio Military Camp			1		1			2	2
20. Artemisa Military Camp	2		2		1			5	3
21. Holguin Military Camp						1	1	2	2
22. Remedios Military Camp			1	2	1			4	3
23. Santiago de los Vegas Military Camp	2							2	1
24. Lourdes (Torrens) Army Camp	2		1		1			4	3
25. Limonar Military Camp	1			1	1	1		4	4
26. Camaguey Military Camp		1		1		1	1	4	4
28. Managua Staging Area	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	11	7
29. Bejucal Staging Area	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	10	7
30. Manicaragua Staging Area						1	1	2	2

50X1

During 15-21 March 1963, 93 percent of the total land area of Cuba was covered by photography with 25 percent or less cloud cover. This included oblique photography up to 70 miles on either side of the flight line.

During 15-21 March 1963, 14 BRASS KNOB missions were flown.

**GROUP 1**  
Excluded from automatic down-  
grading and declassification

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